

Remarks

The forgoing amendment has been made after a careful review of the present application, the references of records, and the Office Actions dated July 17, 2006. In the Office Action, the examiner allowed claims 7 through 10 and rejected claims 2 – 4, 6, and 14 – 16. The rejected claims recite that the various axes form “an angle of at least one hundred twenty degrees,” whereas the specification states that the planes formed by the various axes should have an angle of at least one hundred degrees.

In the forgoing amendment, the applicant has made certain amendments to overcome the examiner’s rejection. Specifically, both claims 3 and 14, which are the only two claims that refer to the angle formed by planes intersecting axes, have been amended to recite an angle of at least one hundred degrees rather than one hundred twenty degrees so that it again conforms with the specification. Claim 14 has been further amended to clarify that the drum has a plurality of paddles therein for rotation therewith and that the improvement further includes a vacuum line connected to the drum for drawing a vacuum therein.

With the forgoing amendments, the applicant again traverses any rejection outstanding with respect to the amended claims. The Office Action dated July 17, 2006 does not set forth specific objections to the claims other than under 35 USC 112 to the effect that the angle between planes set forth in claims 3 and 14 differ from the angles disclosed in the specification. The applicant assumes, however, that the examiner would again apply the same arguments and objections previously raised to the outstanding claims.

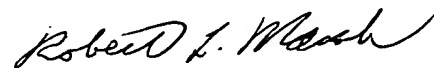
With respect to claim 3, the examiner had indicated in the Office Action dated April 3, 2006 that claims 5 and 6 would be allowed if placed in independent form. Amended claim 3 is essentially former claim 5 placed in independent form and therefore it is believed that claim 5 is now in condition for allowance. Claim 6 previously was dependent upon claim 5 but is now dependent upon claim 3 and is believed to also be allowable. Claim 4 is dependent on claim 3 and is likewise believed to be allowable.

As amended, claim 14 clearly defines over Gontero in that claim 14 requires that the drum have a plurality of paddles therein that rotate therewith and that the drum have a vacuum line attached thereto for drawing a vacuum therein. Gontero does not have paddles in the drum. The plate 18 of Gontero does not rotate with the drum as required by amended claim 14. Furthermore, Gontero does not require a vacuum tube for drawing a vacuum in the drum as now required by claim 14.

New claim 17 is dependent on claim 14 and requires that the paddles be removable without the use of tools.

With the forgoing amendments, the applicant submits that the claims of the application are now in condition in allowance and favorable reconsideration and allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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